**Protocol PowerPlans are sets of orders that can be activated by the nurse or ancillary caregiver (e.g., respiratory therapist, dietitian, interventional technologist) based on specified clinical criteria. During order entry, the provider chooses and initiates the protocols can be used for the patient. These orders then serve as a guide and resource for future related orders based on patient data and clinical outcomes.**

Types of Protocol PowerPlans
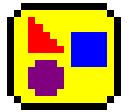
Protocol PowerPlans in the hospital can largely be grouped into two major categories. There are Joint Practice Protocols (JPPs) and other Protocols. In every case, the patient must meet certain criteria in order for the orders in the protocols to be activated.

➢ **Joint Practice Protocols (JPPs)**

- **Patient Type/Unit-Based JPPs**

  - Joint Practice Protocols are available throughout the hospital.

  - Examples: JPP Acute Rehab; JPP Interventional Lab; JPP Med-Surg Adult.

  - These protocols contain orders that can be used to improve patient comfort, address minor common concerns, and initiate certain testing if the patient's condition changes.

- **Service Line-Specific JPPs**

  - These are used by a specific ancillary team and contain orders for treatments for specific conditions.

  - Examples: JPP Nutrition Services; JPP Respiratory Therapy Adult; JPP Wound & Ostomy.

- **ED JPPs**

  - When indicated, emergency department nurses may initiate orders from a set of condition specific JPPs. These may only be used in the ED.

  - See QRG – 2500 – Managing ED JPP PowerPlans for more information.

➢ **Other Protocols**

- Other Protocol PowerPlans are available to assist with the management of complex disease processes and/or clinical interventions.

- Most often, Protocol PowerPlans are ordered as part of an admission or post-operative PowerPlan, but they can also be ordered separately.

- Examples: Potassium Protocols; Magnesium Protocols; Insulin Protocols; Heparin Protocols.

From the Office of Clinical Informatics
Using Protocol PowerPlans in the Hospital
August 10, 2021
Page 2 of 5

Viewing Available Protocol PowerPlan Orders

STEP 1: **Go to the Orders link to view available Protocol PowerPlans.** Click the header in the **Orders** Orders (23) component on the Handoff MPage. This will open the **Orders** link within the chart.

STEP 2: **Find available PowerPlans.** These display in the navigator on the left under **Plans** > **Medical**.

- In this example, the **Quick Admission** PowerPlan was used at admission and the three Protocol PowerPlans were included as sub-plans within the admission plan.
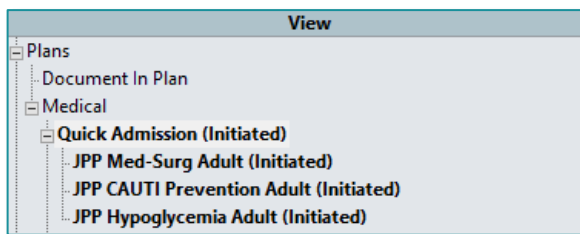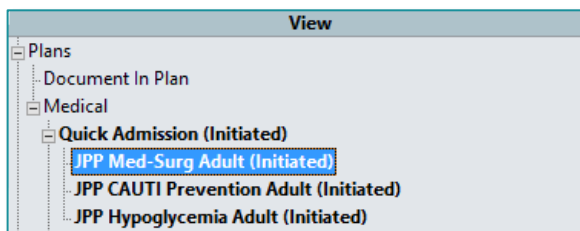

- PowerPlans must be in **(Initiated)** status before their orders can be used.

STEP 2: **Turn on View Excluded Components. (This step is important!)**

- Because Protocol PowerPlans contain a menu of orders that can be used if appropriate, they contain orders that have not yet been activated.

- It's necessary to pull the orders that haven't yet been used into view. This is done using the **View Excluded Components** button at the top of the orders window.
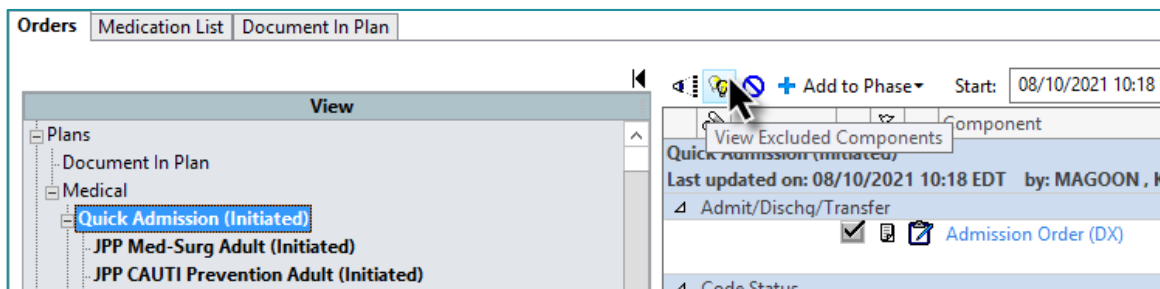
STEP 3: **View available orders within a Protocol.** Click to open and view a Protocol PowerPlan.

From the Office of Clinical Informatics
Using Protocol PowerPlans in the Hospital
August 10, 2021
Page 3 of 5

Parts of a Protocol PowerPlan

Because the protocols require that the patient meet certain inclusion criteria and that the patient be assessed for any exclusionary factors, most Protocol PowerPlans contain instructions and links to additional reference materials.

➢ **Reference Text**

- **Reference Text** is denoted by the **pages** icon (shown to the right). Click this icon to launch the Reference Text window which will contain additional information, such as a link to the policy or procedures relating to the order(s).

➢ **Instructions**

- Instructions, including inclusion/exclusion criteria, dosing guidelines, and other important details are denoted by a **post-it note** icon.


➢ **Evidence-Based Information**

- Evidence-based information is often available for screening tool, scales, and patient condition-based interventions. These are marked with the **notebook/chain** icon.

From the Office of Clinical Informatics
Using Protocol PowerPlans in the Hospital
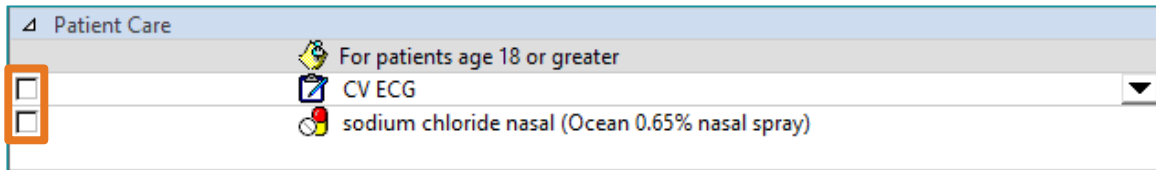August 10, 2021
Page 4 of 5

➢ **Linked Orders**

- Certain orders should be placed together. These are marked with **open chain link** 🔗 icons.

- When a linked order is selected, any orders linked to it will be selected, as well.
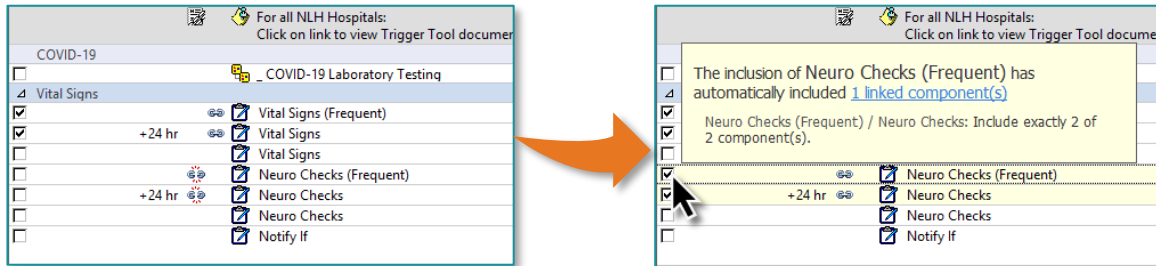
- Note how the icon changes to the **closed** 🔗 **chain link**.

➢ **Available Inactive Orders**

- Orders that have not yet been activated display with an open checkbox on the left.

➢ **Active/Previously Used Orders**

- Active orders display a checked gray box to the right and the name of the order displays as a blue hyperlink.
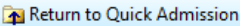

- Previously used, inactive orders display an unchecked gray box to the right and the name of the order displays as a blue hyperlink.

Using Protocol PowerPlan Orders

Be sure to review all instructions, reference text, and evidence-based information before using protocol orders. It's important that the patient meets the criteria for the order before an order is activated.

IMPORTANT: Be sure that View Excluded Components is turned on before attempting to use a Protocol PowerPlan. If in a sub-plan, it may be necessary to click Return to PowerPlan 🔼 Return to Quick Admission to access the View Excluded Components 🔍 button.

From the Office of Clinical Informatics
Using Protocol PowerPlans in the Hospital
August 10, 2021
Page 5 of 5

➢ **Activating an Available Inactive Order**

- Place a checkmark in the checkbox to the left of the order.

- The **Ordering Physician** window will appear. The provider will default to the person who ordered the PowerPlan.

- **Communication type** is **Protocol**. Click **OK**.

- Unless otherwise specified within a PowerPlan, **do not modify** the Order Details when using a protocol.

- Click **Orders for Signature**.

- Click **Sign**.

➢ **Activating a Previously Used Order**

- It is often necessary to re-use orders in a Protocol PowerPlan. This is especially true for PowerPlans where an intervention is based on a lab result such as the Potassium and Magnesium Protocols.

- To re-use an order, simply right-click and select **Copy**.

- The **Ordering Physician** window will appear. The provider will default to the person who ordered the PowerPlan.

- **Communication type** is **Protocol**. Click **OK**.

- Unless otherwise specified within a PowerPlan, **do not modify** the Order Details when using a protocol.

- Click **Orders for Signature**.

- Click **Sign**.